

amount to be used for development of hydro power in the region. The annual plan outlay for hydro generating has been significantly raised from Rs. 3219.99 crores for the year 2000-2001 to Rs. 4243.68 crores for the year 2001-2002 under Central Sector.

Target for power generation

4336. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set any target for power generation for the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to increase the rate of annual power generation in the ensuing years to achieve the set target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The proposed target for electricity generation for the current year i.e. 2001-02 is 530 Billion Units as per details given below:

Category	Generation Target (Billion Units)
Thermal	430.284
Nuclear	16.916
Hydro	82.800
All India	530.000

(c) The following steps are being taken to improve power generation in the country:—

(i) Expeditious implementation of capacity addition programme and doubling the capacity by 2012.

(ii) Renovation and modernisation (R&M) and life extension of existing old and inefficient generating units.

(iii) Disbursement of loans by Power Finance Corporation for improving operation and maintenance of thermal power station under the accelerated generation programmes.

(iv) Increasing the inter-state and inter-regional power transfer by construction of missing transmission links and system improvement and finally development of the National Grid.

(v) Coordinated operation of Hydro, Thermal, Nuclear and Gas turbine power stations in the regional power system.

(vi) Speedy implementation of reform process in the power sector.

(vii) Early stabilization of newly commissioned generating units.

Measures to attract FDI in power sector

4337. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ABN-AMRO Bank has presented a note on "Measures to attract FDI in power sector in India";

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto; and

(c) what are Government's views about opening of transmission and distribution to private sector either before the generation or simultaneously with generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The Government of India has taken a number of steps to attract Foreign Direct Investment in the Power Sector in India. Some of these measures, *inter-alia*, include:

providing for automatic approval for foreign equity in projects for electric generation, transmission and distribution and permitting foreign equity participation up to 100% on the automatic approval route without any limit.

minimizing the number of clearances required to be obtained for the purpose of appraisal of the private power projects by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).